



## George Maxfield Keck

October 28, 1927 - April 15, 2016

George Maxfield Keck, 88, of Corning passed away peacefully in his sleep on Friday April 15, 2016, at West Haven Senior Living in Orland. George was born in Montclair, New Jersey on October 28, 1927, to Maxfield and Estella (Marcellus) Keck. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps towards the end of WW II, and attended Seton Hall University. George met the love of his life, Betty Lou Bergmann of South Orange, New Jersey, in the summer of 1948. They were married in early 1949 and had a daughter and a son, and shortly afterwards moved to Southern California where George worked for W T Grant. Soon after having another daughter, they moved in 1956 to Orland, CA. George was a reporter for the Orland Unit-Register, and later became editor. The Kecks had 3 more children while living in Orland.

George became a Christian in the early 1960's while attending the Evangelical Free Church in Orland. He immediately had a heart for missionary work and he became involved in Wycliffe Bible Translators and the Gideons. In 1972 there was a move to Prineville, Oregon, to work as a newspaper editor there, but shortly afterwards he and Betty and the 3 youngest children moved to Minnesota, where George became editor of the Evangelical Beacon. After 17 years as Beacon editor he retired, and he and Betty spent a year at Rio Grande Bible Institute in Texas, studying Spanish. Their retirement continued in Corning, as several of their children live here.

George and Betty became active at First Baptist Church in Corning. They also taught English as a second language to many students. They were loved by many and were wonderful parents and grandparents. Betty passed away in 2001. George was involved in Friends in Action International, a missionary organization, and went on many trips to Guayaramerin, Bolivia where he helped in construction, painting, building a riverboat, working on a tower for a radio station, and preaching in Spanish at various churches. In 2009, George published a book, "Smarter Than Einstein," a book of amusing anecdotes from his life that he ties in with looking for God's lessons and finding the "hidden gems" even in difficult situations.

George was also an avid jogger and tennis player. He has 3 children in Corning, Nancy (Anselmo) Molina; Daniel (Debra) Keck; and Barbara (widow of Jack) Bostrom. His son Steven and wife Sherie live in Redding. His daughter Vicki Joan Keck lives in Minneapolis,

Minnesota, and his son James (Betsy) Keck lives in Round Rock, Texas. There are 16 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren.

George's kind and gentle nature and loving, giving heart caused him to be loved and respected by many; he was a wonderful example to his children, grandchildren, and extended family. He will be missed!

If anyone would wish to make a memorial donation, we suggest Friends in Action Int'l USA, P.O. Box 323, Elizabethtown, PA 17022.

# Cemetery

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## **Sunset Hill Cemetery**

4470 Oren ave

Corning, CA, 96021